

SEP 22 2006

Application No. 10/666,461
Amendment dated September 22, 2006
First Preliminary Amendment

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Docket No.: 61844(51035)

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of using hop acids as an antimicrobial agent for a food processing facility, comprising:

delivering the hop acids in detergents and cleansers for use in controlling microorganisms in a food processing facility, wherein the hop acids are mixed with the biodegradable detergent in an amount to inhibit ~~certain types of~~ microbial organisms.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the microbial organisms are *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the hop acids are hexahydroisoalpha acids.

4. (New) A method of using hop acids as an antimicrobial agent, the method comprising incorporating hop acids into a food packaging material to control microorganisms.

5. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the hop acids are hexahydroisoalpha acids.

6. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the microorganisms are *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

7. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein the food packaging material comprises a 2% by weight volume of HEXAHOP™.

8. (New) A food packaging material comprising a hop acid in an amount to inhibit a microbial organism.

9. (New) The food packaging material of claim 8, wherein the microorganisms are *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

10. (New) The food packaging material of claim 8, wherein the food packaging material comprises a 2% by weight volume of HEXAHOP™.

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11. (New) The food packaging material of claim 8, wherein the hop acids are hexahydroisoalpha acids.

12. (New) A method of making a food packaging material comprising incorporating hop acids into a food packaging material.

13. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the hop acid is in an amount to inhibit a microbial organism.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the microbial organisms are *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

15. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein the hop acids are hexahydroisoalpha acids.